procurement of project materials (except supply of mainline pipes), construction of mainline as well as stations, Telecommunications, Telesupervisory and Instrumentation on a composite basis was awarded to a Consortium consisting of M/s. Skodaexport Company Limited, Czech Republic (Consortium leader), M/s. Strojexpórt Co. Ltd., Czech Republic (member) and M/s. Larsen and Toubro Ltd., India (member). The work was awarded in August, 1993 with a completion schedule of 18 months and accordingly the work was to be completed by 28.2.95. This pipeline has been, however, taken into operation, in phases, from December 1995 to June 1995 and the entire pipeline from Kandla to Bhatinda is in operation, except, some of the major residual jobs of supervisory Cathodic Protection etc. and the work, in this regard, is continuing.

The delay in completion of the project is on account of delay in design and detailed engineering, procurement, construction of pipeline, construction of stations, execution of horizontal directional drilling across 10 perennial canal crossings and execution of telecommunication, telesupervisory and instrumentation works, etc.

During period of non-operation of the KBPL, there was an element of higher transportation cost by moving the products by rail/road instead of the cheaper mode of KBPL.

MPLADS

*197. SHRI SANAT MEHTA :
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO :

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the annual grant of Rs. one crore under MPLADS;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representation from the MPs to change the guidelines of MPLADS;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether the Government have formulated any guidelines for the expenditure of the interest from MPLADS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Majority of the representations received from the MPs are on the following :

(i) to increase the annual allocation per MP under the Scheme;

(ii) to relax the cost ceiling of Rs. 10 lakh per individual work under the Scheme;

(iii) to include purchase of inventory items under the Scheme;

(iv) to allow Rajya Sabha MPs to choose more than one district in an year; and

(v) to allow sharing of MPLADS funds and funds from other sources.

(e) Guidelines of modalities for utilisation of the interest on MPLADS funds have not been finalised.

[Translation]

Barauni Oil Refinery

*198. SHRI SHATRUGHAN PRASAD SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether oil refinery established in 1964 at Barauni has not been expanded while other refineries set up after that are being expanded;

(b) whether a proposal for the expansion of Barauni refinery is pending with the Ministry for the last eleven months; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which this refinery is likely to be expanded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c). The refinery capacity of Barauni Refinery which was 1 MMTPA in 1964 has been increased, in phases, to 3.3 MMTPA. The process units of the refinery are capable of processing 4.2 MMTPA due to various modernisation projects.

IOC's proposal of expansion of the capacity of this refinery to 6.00 MMTPA, is under process, for Ist Stage Clearance.

[English]

H.P.C.L.

*199. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Hindustan Petroleum Corporation propose to invest Rs. 10500 crores in the coming years for entering into exploration and production on the one hand and power generation on the other;

(b) if so, whether any concrete proposals in this regard have already been worked out;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the work on these projects are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d). The Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited